

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A hair holder comprising:

~~one or more~~ two hair holding sheets ~~for holding~~ configured to hold a hair bundle in a prescribed shape, ~~at least one of the hair holding sheets retaining a hair treating agent such that the hair treating agent is integrated therewith~~ the hair holding sheets comprising a flat tube with two sides and a hollow therein, the hollow being configured to have a hair bundle inserted therethrough,

wherein at least one of the hair holding sheets ~~has~~ is an agent-impregnated sheet having a Taber stiffness of 0.2 mN·m or higher, ~~and a water retention of 0.03 g/cm² or more and impregnated with the hair treating agent~~

wherein at least one of the hair holding sheets has provided on a side thereof a plurality of sealed agent packets including a hair treating agent sealed therein, the sealed packets each including a protrusion within the packet, which protrusion is a portion weaker in seal strength than a remainder of the respective sealed packet.

Claims 2-3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The hair holder according to claim ~~[[3]]~~ 1, wherein the flat tube has an agent-impermeable layer ~~made of~~ comprising a material impermeable to the hair treating agent formed on part of, or the whole of, the outer surface thereof.

Claim 5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A hair treating method comprising:

providing ~~one or more~~ hair holding sheets configured to hold a hair bundle in a prescribed shape, at least one of the hair holding sheets being a sheet having a Taber stiffness of 0.2 mN·m or higher ~~and a water retention of 0.03 g/cm² or more and,~~

wherein the hair holding sheets comprise a flat tube including two sides and a hollow configured to have a hair bundle inserted therethrough and at least one of the hair holding sheets includes, on a side thereof, a plurality of sealed agent packets including a hair treating agent sealed therein, the sealed packets each including a protrusion within the packet, which protrusion is a portion weaker in seal strength than a remainder of the respective sealed packet,

the method further including releasing the hair treating agent from the packets via the respective protrusions and applying the hair treating agent to ~~impregnating~~ the at least one of the hair holding sheets with a hair treating agent to prepare at least one agent-impregnated sheet before carrying out to provide a hair treatment to the hair bundle inserted in the hollow.

Claim 7 (Original): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein at least one of the hair holding sheets is an agent-coated sheet having a hair treating agent having a viscosity of 100 mPa·s or higher applied to the inner side thereof and being impermeable to the hair treating agent.

Claim 8 (Original): The hair holder according to claim 7, wherein the hair treating agent is supported by an agent-supporting layer.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): A hair holder comprising:

one or more hair holding sheets for holding a hair bundle in a prescribed shape, at least one of the hair holding sheets retaining a hair treating agent such that the hair treating agent is integrated therewith,

wherein at least one of the hair holding sheets is an agent-coated sheet having a hair treating agent having a viscosity of 100 mPa·s or higher applied to the inner side thereof and being impermeable to the hair treating agent,

wherein the hair holder comprises a flat tube having two sides, one side of the flat tube being formed of the agent-coated sheet, and the other side being formed of an agent-permeable sheet permeable to the hair treating agent,

the hair holder further comprising a protective sheet impermeable to the hair treating agent inserted between the agent-coated sheet and the agent-permeable sheet to provide a hollow for inserting a hair bundle between the agent-permeable sheet and the protective sheet.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): ~~The hair holder according to claim 7, comprising A~~
hair holder comprising:

one or more hair holding sheets to hold a hair bundle in a prescribed shape, at least one of the hair holding sheets retaining a hair treating agent such that the hair treating agent is integrated therewith;

an outer flat tube and an inner flat tube inserted through the outer flat tube,

the outer flat tube being formed of two sheets for holding a hair bundle in a prescribed shape,

the inner flat tube being formed of the two hair holding sheets, at least one of the two hair holding sheets being the agent-coated sheet, and

the inner flat tube ~~having~~ including a hollow through which a hair bundle is adapted to be inserted,

wherein at least one of the hair holding sheets is an agent-impregnated sheet having a Taber stiffness of 0.2 mN·m or higher and a water retention of 0.03 g/cm² or more and impregnated with the hair treating agent, and

wherein at least one of the hair holding sheets is an agent-coated sheet having a hair treating agent having a viscosity of 100 mPa·s or higher applied to the inner side thereof and being impermeable to the hair treating agent.

Claim 11 (Original): The hair holder according to claim 10, further comprising a hair inserter configured to lead a hair bundle into the hollow of the inner flat tube, the hair inserter being sealed in the inner flat tube together with the hair treating agent.

Claim 12 (Original): The hair holder according to claim 11, wherein the end of the inner flat tube is configured to expose the end of the hair inserter.

Claim 13 (Canceled):

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The hair holder according to claim [[13]] 1, ~~wherein the hair holding sheets have the shape of a flat tube forming a hollow therein allowing a hair bundle to be inserted therethrough, the sealed agent packets being~~ are arranged in the hollow.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The hair holder according to claim [[13]] 1, wherein the sealed agent packets are agent-containing bags formed separately from the hair holding sheets.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The hair holder according to claim [[13]] 1, wherein the sealed agent packets are formed by a packet-forming sheet and the side of the at least one of the hair holding sheets, the packet-forming sheet has a plurality of recesses which are concave in the thickness direction and in which the hair treating agent is sealed.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A hair treating method comprising providing the hair holder according to claim [[13]] 1, placing or inserting a hair bundle on or through the hair holder, rolling up the hair holder together with the hair bundle, and applying pressure to the sealed agent packets before, during or after the rolling up to break the packets thereby releasing the hair treating agent out of the packets and supplying the hair treating agent to the hair.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): ~~The hair holder according to claim 8,~~ A hair holder comprising:

one or more hair holding sheets for holding a hair bundle in a prescribed shape, at least one of the hair holding sheets retaining a hair treating agent such that the hair treating agent is integrated therewith,

wherein at least one of the hair holding sheets is an agent-impregnated sheet having a Taber stiffness of 0.2 mN·m or higher and a water retention of 0.03 g/cm² or more and impregnated with the hair treating agent,

wherein at least one of the hair holding sheets is an agent-coated sheet having a hair treating agent having a viscosity of 100 mPa·s or higher applied to the inner side thereof and being impermeable to the hair treating agent,

wherein the hair treating agent is supported by an agent-supporting layer, and

wherein the hair holder comprises a flat tube ~~having~~ including two sides, one side of the flat tube being formed of the agent-coated sheet, and the other side being formed of an agent-permeable sheet permeable to the hair treating agent,

the hair holder further comprising a protective sheet impermeable to the hair treating agent inserted between the agent-coated sheet and the agent-permeable sheet to provide a hollow for inserting a hair bundle between the agent-permeable sheet and the protective sheet.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): ~~The hair holder according to claim 8,~~ A hair holder comprising:

one or more hair holding sheets for holding a hair bundle in a prescribed shape, at least one of the hair holding sheets retaining a hair treating agent such that the hair treating agent is integrated therewith,

wherein at least one of the hair holding sheets is an agent-impregnated sheet having a Taber stiffness of 0.2 mN·m or higher and a water retention of 0.03 g/cm² or more and impregnated with the hair treating agent,

wherein at least one of the hair holding sheets is an agent-coated sheet having a hair treating agent having a viscosity of 100 mPa·s or higher applied to the inner side thereof and being impermeable to the hair treating agent, and

wherein the hair treating agent is supported by an agent-supporting layer,

the hair holder further comprising an outer flat tube and an inner flat tube inserted through the outer flat tube,

the outer flat tube being formed of two sheets for holding a hair bundle in a prescribed shape,

the inner flat tube being formed of the two hair holding sheets, at least one of the two hair holding sheets being the agent-coated sheet, and

the inner flat tube having a hollow through which a hair bundle is adapted to be inserted.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The hair holder according to claim 14, wherein the sealed agent packets are agent-containing bags formed separately from the hair holding sheets.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The hair holder according to claim 14, wherein the sealed agent packets are formed by a packet-forming sheet and the side of the at least one of the hair holding sheets, the packet-forming sheet has a plurality of recesses which are concave in the thickness direction and in which the hair treating agent is sealed.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The hair holder according to claim 9, wherein the hair treating agent is supported by an agent-supporting layer.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The hair holder according to claim 1, wherein the ~~hair holder is a flat tube comprising~~ comprises two sheets sealed together at side edges.

Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The hair holder according to claim 9, wherein the flat tube comprises two sheets sealed together at side edges.